

of the Son of Righteousness and rejoice in his victory.

Lesson Applied

- 1 Nothing begets doubt like inactivity.
- 2 When you have doubts ask Jesus about them.
- 3 The best evidence of Jesus as the Christ is his works among men.
- 4 The test of Christianity is its works. What does it do?
- 5 Jesus always answers those who appeal to him, but not always as they expect.
- 6 The test of character is Christ's approval.
- 7 What will Christ's words be concerning you?
- 8 Are you willing to let Christ answer your questions and settle your doubts?

J. L. GILLIN.

The Lesson for Young People

1. *It is a mark of true greatness to be willing to obscure self for the kingdom's sake.*

Recent military history has shown us how ungraciously certain generals could behave when superseded in their commands by other generals. They resented being put into second place. This is a hard test for any man to meet. But John met it. When he was in the height of his popularity, and when his name was on everybody's lips, Another appeared and John promptly laid all his laurels at the feet of the coming Christ. "He must increase, but I must decrease," he cried.

2. *Noble lives win loyal friends.*

Some boys and girls grow up without friends. They have many pleasant acquaintances, but no friends that last. It does not speak well for such, that they have never won the loyalty of devoted hearts. Every one who is sincere and unselfish should have at least one human friend who will stick thru thick and thin. John had several such, and that he had, was a tribute to his own worth, as well as to the nobility of his friends.

3. *John's mighty life furnishes us an example to imitate.*

The ruggedest character in history is John the Baptist. He is the world's type of strong, fearless, and faithful truth-telling. Christ complimented him by pointing out that he was not a frail reed, bending whichever way the wind blew, or a soft-spoken, luxurious-living seeker after men's favor. John was a prophet, with a soul as free as the sunlight and as strong as the rocks of the wilderness where he made his home. He was a brave man and a true man. All honest hearts love him and seek to become like him, for the world to-day has sore need of Johns.

4. *It is better to suffer for the truth than to have the truth suffer for us.*

John suffered for the truth, but the truth did not suffer because of him. He never hindered the power and progress of truth by cowardice or inconsistency. So he was triumphing even in Herod's dungeon. He had no worry for himself, either. But being

human, he was anxious to know whether Jesus was really the One who was to bring the triumph of the kingdom. If the Christ was at work, all would be well and he would be satisfied. Jesus splendidly answered John's questionings, and thereafter there was no more peaceful heart in Herod's palace or prison than that of the Baptist. Doubtless the head that was borne on a charger into the hall of revelry, wore a smile of joy.

5. *If we are true to Christ, he will be true to us.*

Once John spoke a word of testimony for Jesus. Now Jesus speaks a word of testimony for John. John was the Messiah's friend when he needed a witness; now the Messiah is John's friend when he needed endorsement and encouragement.

6. *The divinity of Jesus was manifested by his deeds.*

In The Last of the Mohicans there is a passage where a young lieutenant tries to pass himself off as the famous scout, Natty Bumppo, in order to save the latter's life. Their captors, the Indians, shrewdly put the two men to the test of marksmanship, for the scout was a peerless shot. The latter naturally refused to purchase his own life at the expense of his companion's, and by a wonderful exhibition of skill with the rifle satisfied the Indians as to his identity. He proved his character by his ability. Jesus was constantly doing this, just as he did in the presence of John's disciples. He wrought wonderful works as a sign that he was none other than the Christ.

Terse Teachings

- Works prove worth.
- A true life never fails.
- Soft lives make no impression on the world.
- It is better to be John in prison than Herod on a throne.
- They who put duty above ease follow in John's train.
- The kind of work a man does reveals the kind of man he is.
- Jesus honors those who have sought no honor for themselves.
- A foundation stone is more necessary to a church than a steeple.
- Some folks would rather be a beautiful reed than a plain finger board.
- Prison walls were not high enough or thick enough to shut out John's interest in the kingdom.

Church News

Walkerton, Ind.

Perhaps the readers of the EVANGELIST should like to know a little of what Bro. Ditch is doing for us, and what we are trying to do for the Lord and the upbuilding of the Brethren Church.

Bro. Ditch is with us once a month and preaches for us on Saturday evening southwest of Walkerton about two miles in a school-house, and on Sunday morning and

evening in North Liberty in the Advant church.

Bro. Ditch expects to begin to hold a protracted meeting for us in North Liberty the fifth of this month, providing we can have the church, as we have no church of our own we can not always have church when we would like to.

But at our last business meeting, the third day of this month, we decided to try to see what we can do towards building a church on our lot in North Liberty.

Some say we are too poor and there is no use trying, but I know we can if we try, for the Lord will always help those who try to help themselves. It is true the majority of us members are poor financially, but I feel we are rich spiritually for we know there is a crown waiting for us in that better world if we do all we can for the Lord in this world.

We are going to try to build our church by gathering up the little mites and lay them in store until we get enough to go ahead and build. There has been stone donated to us for the foundation and the brethren expect to draw them on the lot in the near future, and we sisters are going to see what we can do towards trying to raise funds towards building the church. We proposed to try to make a silk quilt and have every one to help us that will.

We take the pattern from the quilt that sister Detwiler was making or had made for the support of the Theological chair. We want 20 names at ten cents each, or any amount over ten cents you choose, to donate for each block, and if there be any of our dear sisters in other localities that would be kind enough to help us with our quilt we will gladly accept it and thank you many times for it. If so please write to me and I will send you the pattern. I made a block for Sister Detwiler, and have it almost completed and will soon send it to Sister Augustine's.

We thank the Mission Board many many times for sending us Bro. Ditch, and we hope and pray that there may be a great harvest reaped here, and Oh! Dear Brethren pray for us in this locality for it needs your prayers. May God's blessings rest upon us all.

MRS. MARY RENSBERGER, Sec.

Cornell, Ill.

Once again we come with our report. Brother J. H. Garns, of Farrerton, Ill., arrived here March 16. Preached five very interesting sermons, the last one being a temperance sermon from a gospel standpoint. Held one prayer meeting. The congregations were fair and collections good. We trust Brother Garns will have the privilege of coming among us again in the near future. As we do not have regular preaching we are glad to have some one to come among us and give us a few good sermons. Brethren and sisters pray for us at Cornell.

HATTIE GRANT.